

REMARKS

Claims 11 to 30 are now pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

Claims 11, 24, and 30 have been amended above. Underlining indicates additions and strikeouts indicate deletions. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) - Atalla reference

Claims 11 to 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,319,710 to Atalla et al. (“Atalla reference”).

As discussed in Applicants’ earlier response, the Atalla reference appears to concern combining and managing personal verification and message authentication encryptions for network transmission. Specifically, the Atalla reference refers to integrating the encryption keys associated with PIN and MAC codes to assure that the codes are sufficiently interrelated and that alteration of one such code will adversely affect the other such code and inhibit message authentication in the network. The Atalla reference further refers to encrypting a MAC code with a generated random number and a single session key which also encrypts the user’s PIN. The Atalla reference recites that an intermediate node may receive the encryptions to reproduce the PIN that is then used to encrypt the received message and sequence number to produce the random number and a MAC code for comparison with a decrypted MAC code. The Atalla reference recites that upon a favorable comparison, the random number and the MAC code are encrypted with a second session encryption key to produce an output code that is transmitted to the destination node along with an encrypted PIN; and, there, the received encryptions are decrypted using the second session key to provide the PIN for use in encrypting the message and sequence number to produce a MAC code for comparison with a decrypted MAC code. The Atalla reference then recites that, upon favorable comparison, a selected portion of the decrypted random number is returned to the originating node for comparison with the corresponding random number portion generated at that node.

In contrast, claim 11 is directed to a method for transmitting signals, and requires that the authentication tokens are used to authenticate both the signals and a transmission sequence of the signals; and that the authentication token to be compared with the transmitted authentication token received by the receiver is calculated before the transmission of the signals. Applicants respectfully submit that the Atalla reference *does not identically describe* both of those features in the manner claimed in claim 11. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is allowable over the Atalla reference. Since claims 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, and 23, depend from claim 11, those claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 11. Since claims 25, 27, and 29, contain features analogous to those of claim 11, those claims are allowable for essentially the same reasons. In view of the above,

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over the Atalla reference.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Atalla reference and Official Notices

Claims 14, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 28, and 30, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the Atalla reference in view of the cited "Official Notices."

Claims 14, 17, 20, and 21, depend from claim 11, and are therefore allowable for the same reasons as claim 11, over the Atalla reference. Claims 24, 26, 28, and 30, contain features analogous to those of claim 11, and are thus allowable for essentially the same reasons as claim 11. Applicants respectfully submit that the Official Notices of, for instance, the generation of a pseudo-random number by a block-cipher acting in an output feedback mode, and the use of XOR in the production of MAC codes, does not cure the deficiencies of the Atalla reference explained above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 28, and 30, are allowable; and, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Atalla reference and Official Notices.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 11 to 30 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a), have been obviated, and that claims 11 to 30 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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